

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

During a telephone conversation of January 30, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the application contains the following patentably distinct species.

Group I	Claim 1
Group II	Claim 2
Group III	Claim 3
Group IV	Claims 4-9
Group V	Claims 10-29
Group VI	Claim 30

The applicants hereby elect Group V (claims 10-29) for prosecution in the subject application. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

A sample of the type of device shown in Figure 2 (without a coagulant) is submitted herewith.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of

papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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FOLEY & LARDNER

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: (202) 672-5426

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By



Glenn Law

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 34,371